

**Express Mail # EV399608852US**

December 22, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re\ Application of: Alan Richard Glaze and Steven Paul Webb

Based on: Int'l Appln. No. PCT/GB2003/002629  
Filed June 19, 2003

Claiming Priority of: United Kingdom Application No. 0214449.1  
Filed June 22, 2002 and  
United Kingdom Application No. 0217263.3  
Filed July 25, 2002

For: COUPLING OF TUBULAR MEMBERS

(Atty. Docket No. P30320 USA )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO REDUCE MULTIPLE  
DEPENDENCIES PRIOR TO EXAMINATION OF THE APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop PCT  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2  
of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.